

# BROWN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

## Public Health Division

111 N JEFFERSON ST  
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GREEN BAY, WI 54305-3600



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September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Measles cases in Wisconsin and across the country are rising. Because measles can cause negative and long-lasting consequences and spreads easily, it is important that families know how to prevent it, signs and symptoms, and what to do if someone is exposed or becomes sick.

### What's Happening?

- **Measles spreads among unvaccinated people very easily.**
- Across the U.S., there have been **over 1,400 cases of measles in 2025.**
- In Wisconsin, there are **24 confirmed cases** (as of 9/02/2025).
- Visit the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Measles Dashboard [link](#) or scan QR code:



### What is Measles?

- Measles is a virus that spreads through the air when a person coughs or sneezes.
- The virus can stay in the air for **up to 2 hours** even after the infected person leaves.
- Symptoms include:
  - High fever (can be above 104° F)
  - Cough, runny nose, red or watery eyes
  - Rash that starts on the face and spreads to the rest of the body
- A person can spread measles **4 days before and 4 days after the rash appears.**

### How Can I Help Protect My Child?

- The **MMR vaccine** (measles, mumps, rubella) is safe and works very well to prevent measles.
  - Children need **2 doses**: the first at 12-15 months old and the second at 4-6 years old
  - Your medical provider can administer the vaccination to protect your child(ren)
  - Brown County Public Health has free vaccine clinics monthly for eligible children, see attached flyer for information and registration or scan this QR code:



### Is the MMR Vaccine Safe?

- If you have concerns or questions, please **talk with your child's provider.**
- The MMR vaccine has been safely used for more than **50 years.**
- It is **very effective**: 2 doses provide about **97% protection** against measles, 1 dose about 93%.
- There may be mild side effects, like sore arm or slight fever, but serious side effects are very rare.
- The risk of negative consequences from measles (pneumonia, ear infections, brain swelling) are much **higher** than serious risks from the vaccine.
- For MMR vaccine information, visit [healthychildren.org](http://healthychildren.org) or scan QR code:



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### Is My Child Protected Against Measles?

- Talk with your child's medical provider to see if they are up to date on vaccinations
- Check their immunization record on the [Wisconsin Immunization Registry](#) or scan this QR code.



### What Should I Do if my Child is Exposed or Sick?

- If they have symptoms or may have been by someone with measles:
  - **Keep them home**
  - **Call the clinic before going in** so they can take steps to protect others that could be especially vulnerable
- If your child has not had the MMR vaccines, they may need to **stay home from school for up to 21 days** if exposed.

**Brown County Public Health follows up with individuals confirmed to have measles to help answer any questions and provide guidance on isolation and when it is safe to return to school or work.** For more information visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/signs-symptoms/index.html> or if you have further questions, please reach out to Brown County Public Health at 920-448-6400.

Together we can help keep our community safe and healthy!